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STPDTS

DEPARTMENT FOR EAP/MLS-LAURA SCHEIBE AND EUR/CE-JAMIE LAMORE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/08/2018

TAGS: PGOV ETRD BM HU

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: NEW BURMA SANCTIONS

REF: SECSTATE 83719

Classified By: PolOff Ryan C. Leong, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Ref talking points were delivered on August 6 to Zsolt Pataki, GOH Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Head of the Department for EU Foreign and Security Policy. Pataki's response on August 7 noted that Hungary fully agrees with current EU sanctions against the Burmese regime and sees no reason to expand sanctions at this time. Pataki stated that Hungary has no "real interest" in Burmese affairs and firmly aligns itself with previous declarations by the EU Presidency and, in particular, the April 29 conclusions of the Council of the European Union 2865th External Relations meeting in Luxembourg. Based on Pataki's comments and remarks from colleagues from EU member embassies in Budapest, we see no light between Hungary and the rest of the EU on this issue.

Levine